

CLASSIFICATION

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COUNTRY East Germany

REPORT NO.

TOPIC Brandis Airfield

EVALUATION 25X1

PLACE OBTAINED

25X1

DATE OF CONTENT 1 to 16 April 1953

DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED

20 May 1953

REFERENCES

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PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. &amp; TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. Brandis airfield was observed between 4 and 16 April 1953. Air activity at the field during this period included:

4 April. there was local flying by individual IL-10s with position lights set.

5 April. IL-10s made local flights and practiced diving over the field. 4 MiG-15s flew over the field heading north. The weather was clear.

6 April. There was no flying in rainy weather.

7 April. flying was started by 12 IL-10s which had been parked at the eastern end of the runway. There was an 8/10 overcast and heavy wind from northwest. Air activity including local flights, formation flying and dives was continued.

8 through 10 April. Local flights and diving were practiced by IL-10s, in cloudy weather and good visibility. on 8 April, night flying was practiced by IL-10s.

11 April. Flying was practiced by eight IL-10s including two with grey propeller hubs. The weather was good.

12 April. No flying.

14 April. 16 IL-10s were parked at the take off point. Weather was 9/10 overcast, visibility good. Formation flying, diving and individual local flying was practiced until 4 p.m.

15 April. There was no flying in heavy rain.

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25X1 16 April. [redacted] after the fog had dispersed, a Po-2 approached from the north and landed at the field. [redacted] a Po-2 25X1 made local flights at an altitude of about 200 meters. The Po-2 continued the local flights after dark until 2 a.m. with position lights set. It was noticed that the runway and the field were not lighted.

2. Except for some young pilots who practiced local flights and whose landings were not perfect, the crews at the field were apparently well trained. When diving the aircraft sideslipped over the left wing at an altitude of about 1,000 meters and pulled out of the dive between 200 and 150 meters. The target attacked was apparently located in the center of the airfield. It was noticed that for cross country flights, the aircraft often headed northeast and returned almost exactly after one hour from the west. Since the Po-2, which was probably used as courier plane always arrived from and left in an northeastern direction, it was assumed that there was an airfield located to the northeast, which was in some connection with Brandis airfield. The DC-3 aircraft with No 8 which arrived with an Il-10 formation on 1 April, landed four times at intervals of 90 minutes coming from the northeast, each time carrying about 15 men and material. Aircraft observed at the field on 16 April included 32 to 34 Il-10s and 3 Pos-2s.<sup>1</sup>
3. On 16 April, source observed that a large bunker had recently been constructed at the AA emplacement north of the eastern end of the runway. It was located on a small elevation, was about 30 meters in diameter and in the center 8 meters high. Two temporary wooden buildings were erected just southwest at the bunker. Five guns were observed around the bunker. The AA unit has an estimated strength of 100 men, who wore red-bordered black epaulets.<sup>2</sup>

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4. [redacted] on 7 April, four tank cars were observed on the railroad track near the eastern end of the runway. They left the field [redacted] on 8 April. A telephone cable suspended on poles was laid along the southern field border from the adjustment stand to the small wooden building located in the middle of the southern field border. During air activity, a guard was observed at the wooden cabin. Except for one, the large crates, previously observed near the eastern hangar had been removed. [redacted]

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1. [redacted] Comment. A GA regiment probably equipped with about 50 Il-10s is stationed at Brandis airfield.
2. [redacted] Comment. For location of AA emplacement, see the sketch attached to a previous report. [redacted]. The purpose of the new bunker has not been determined. 25X1
3. [redacted] Comment. [redacted] previously reported these crates in connection with MiG-15s. [redacted] The information cannot be verified.

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